

BEST AVAILABLE COPY**REMARKS**

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Specification

The Examiner has objected to the abstract and to Fig. 7. Applicants had previously made amendments to overcome the objections in the Response to Office Action mailed on February 2, 2006. Applicants telephoned the Examiner on May 24, 2006 to discuss. The Examiner stated that the objections to the specification in the present Office Action were in there by error and stated that the objections to the specification had been overcome by the amendments Response to Office Action mailed on February 2, 2006.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 68-74. These claims are represented herein. Additionally, new dependent claims 80-81 depend from allowed claim 68 and are also believed to be allowable.

Applicants also note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 62-65 and 78 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. New independent claims 82, 87, 90, 95, and 100 respectively correspond to claims 62-65 and 78. These claims, and their dependent claims, are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY**35 U.S.C. §102(b) Rejection - Dawson**

The Examiner has rejected claims 57-61, 66, 67 and 75-77 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,594,490 issued to Dawson.

These claims have been cancelled herein without prejudice in order to expedite allowance. Accordingly, the rejection is believed to be moot.

Atty Docket No. 42P11604
Application No. 09/895,433

9

BEST AVAILABLE COPY**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed at the earliest possible date.

Request For Telephone Interview

The Examiner is invited to call Brent E. Vecchia at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request For An Extension Of Time

The Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 for such an extension.

Charge Our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 5/24/06

Brent E. Vecchia
Brent E. Vecchia
Reg. No. 48,011

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1030

Atty Docket No. 42P11604
Application No. 09/895,433

10